

Application Number 10/533489
Response to the Office Action dated June 11, 2008

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Claim 1 is amended. Applicants have not added new matter; support in the originally filed specification is found in Figure 4 and its description at page 17, lines 25-27 and in Figure 5C and its description at page 20, lines 11-16. Claims 1-17 and 34 are pending. Claims 14 and 15 are indicated as having allowable subject matter. Claims 18-33 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

The rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Applicants traverse the rejection of claims 1-4 and 6-7 as being obvious over AAPA and Tsunoda '068. Amended claim 1 now recites that the first insulation layer is "held in direct contact with the rear surface of the resistor body."

Applicants traverse. Examine carefully the differences between Figure 15 of Tsunoda '068 and Applicants' Figure 4. In Applicants' Figure 4, the insulating layer 2A extends across dimension L1 on the rear side of the resistor body 10A. The electrode is represented as 3 and the solder layer is shown as 4. Further observe that the first insulation layer 2A is held in direct contact with rear surface 10A of the resistor body 1 where the electrodes 3 and the metal coating layer 4 overlap a the first insulation layer 2A. In particular, look at n1 in Applicants' Figure 4.

The rejection refers to Figure 15 of Tsunoda '068 and notes that the portion of the first insulation layer (14) is inserted between the metal coating layer (19) and the rear surface of the resistor body. Applicants disagree. Compare Figure 4 of Applicants' application with Figure 15 of Tsunoda '068. Looking carefully at Figure 15, on the rear surface of the resistor body, the electrodes 111 do not overlap the insulating layer 14, and the insulating layer 14 is not held in direct

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contact with the rear surface of the resistor body, as now required by claim 1. Rather, it is the other way around; the insulating layer 14 overlaps the inner electrodes 111. At that portion where the electrodes 111 Figures 14 and 15, the intervening inner electrode (111) separates the insulation layer (14) from the metal coating layer (19).

The AAPA of Figures 37 and 38 does not show an insulating layer between the electrodes so there is no insulating layer held in direct contact with the rear surface of the resistor body and there is no region where the electrodes and the solder layer overlap the insulating layer, as required by claim 1. Applicants assert, moreover, that the claimed arrangement provides advantages that are not realized by Tsunoda '068 and the AAPA. The arrangement of claim 1 "does not cause an error between the resistance values of the electrodes in the resistor 1," *see* page 18, lines 6-25 and especially line 23, and eliminates the wide variation in the resistance value that occurs in the prior art, *see* discussion on page 2-3 of Applicants' specification.

Applicants request allowance of claims 2-4 and 6-7 at least by virtue of the dependence upon claim 1, now allowable. Applicants request the withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-4 and 6-7 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

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The rejection under nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting

Applicants submit a corrected terminal disclaimer that overcomes the provisional rejections of claims 1-6 and 34 in view of claims 1, 8-15 of Tsukada, US Application No. 10/517,943. The corrected terminal disclaimer also overcomes the provisional rejections of claims 8-13 and 16-17 in view of claims 5, 16-20 of Tsukada. See pages 5-6 of the Office Action. Applicants note that the cited application, Tsukada '943, issued as US Patent No. 7,342,480 on March 11, 2008. The previous terminal disclaimer is withdrawn. Applicants request that the previously paid disclaimer fee be applied to the corrected disclaimer.

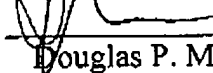
If there are any remaining issues that can easily be resolved with a telephone call, the Examiner is invited to call the attorney of record, Mr. Douglas P. Mueller at (612) 455-3804.

Respectfully submitted,



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Dated: December 11, 2008

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